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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Cloeren] Art Unit: 1791
Serial No.: 10/512,143]
Filed: October 21, 2004] Examiner: Wollschlager
For: INTERFACE CONTROL]

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME AND
REPLY TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A reply was due by 9/22/08, to an Official Action dated 8/22/08. In order to provide additional time for a reply, a Petition for Extension of Time (Two Months) is simultaneously filed herewith. Accordingly, the period for filing a reply is extended to 11/22/08.

By the Official Action, the position is taken that the application contains two groups of inventions which are not linked so as to form a single general inventive concept, these being Group I (method claims 1-9), and Group II (apparatus claims 10-20), and that applicant is required, in reply to the action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

In support thereof, argumentation is made concerning the applicability of U.S. Patent 4,669,965 (Murakami) to the apparatus claims. For the record, it is pointed out that Murakami was relied upon by the USPTO, but overcome by applicant, in the course of obtaining U.S. Patent 6,905,324, which is directed to apparatus claims. Thus, without further comment, applicant contests the USPTO's argumentation with respect to the applicability of Murakamai to apparatus claims. For further

details, the USPTO's attention is respectfully directed to the file history of U.S. Patent 6,905,324, and the various references cited therein by applicant (including an International Search Report and references cited therein) and by the USPTO.

To comply with the Action, applicant elects the Group I invention. Claims 1-9 read upon the Group I invention. This election is made without traverse, and applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to the Group II invention (apparatus claims). To assist examination of the method claims, the USPTO's attention is respectfully directed to the file history of pending U.S. Patent Ser. No. 10/935,101, and the various references cited therein by applicant (including Office Actions, Search Reports and references of foreign patent offices) and the USPTO.

Respectfully submitted,

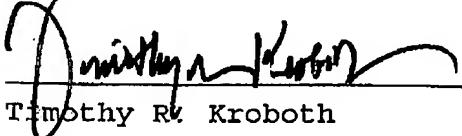

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704-846-3105

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 20, 2008.



Timothy R. Kroboth